Income Tax due from BCCI

3750. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the income tax due to the exchequer from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) during the last five financial years;

(b) whether the BCCI has honoured the tax due to them;

(c) whether there is any outstanding dues to be covered from them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to recover the tax dues from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Sir, no income tax is due to the exchequer from BCCI for the last five financial years.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) In view of (c) does not arise.

Outstanding tax against multinational companies

†3751. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that multinational companies are making false excuses in regard to payment of taxes;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that taxes in thousands of crores of rupees are outstanding against a number of multinational companies;

(c) if so, whether Government would take any effective step for an early recovery of taxes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Multinational companies are not defined under the Income Tax Act and the Income Tax Department does not centrally maintain details of tax payment by Multinational Companies. To furnish the details would require compilation of data at all the field formations spread throughout the country, and the time and efforts required would not be commensurate with the objective sought to be achieved.

(b) As mentioned in (a) separate details in respect of multinational companies are not centrally maintained. The outstanding arrear of Corporate demand as on 29.02.2008 is Rs. 50,060 crores.

(c) and (d) Apart from the statutory steps being taken for recovery of outstanding tax dues as prescribed under the Income Tax Act (including attachment of bank account, debtors etc., attachment and sale of immovable property etc.) the following special measures are also being taken to expedite recovery of direct tax arrears:

(i) Monitoring of recovery of arrears in large cases by a Task Force.

---

†nal notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(ii) Identification of cases involving substantial amount of arrears pending before Commissioners (Appeals) and ITAT and requesting these authorities to dispose off such appeals early so that the demand can be collected during the current financial year itself.

(iii) Requesting the President of ITAT not to allow stay of demand beyond 180 days as prescribed in section 254(2A) of the Income-tax Act.

(iv) Requesting Settlement Commission to dispose off high demand cases expeditiously.

Reduction in customs duty on petroleum products

3752. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to reduce the customs duty on petroleum products in order to control the domestic prices; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Customs duty rates on petroleum products are prescribed taking into account all material factors including the interests of the consumers and the products. There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to reduce customs duty on petroleum products.

Government's response to Sixth Pay Commission Report

3753. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) What is Government's response to the Sixth Pay Commission Report submitted recently;

(b) by when it is going to be implemented;

(c) whether it is a fact that major trade unions in the country have opposed most of the recommendations in the Report; and

(d) if so, what are the recommendations which the trade unions have objections to and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Sixth Central Pay Commission's Report is under examination of the Government at present.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Service Tax as a factor behind inflation

†3754. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that one of the main causes of inflation is increasing rates of service tax;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.